

Mullen et al.

S/N: 09/681,475

REMARKS

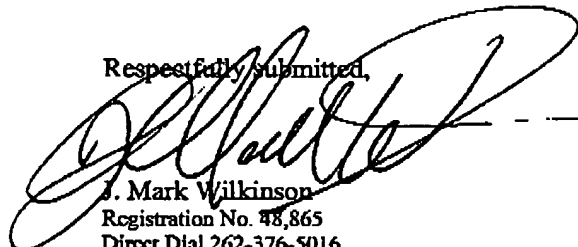
Claims 1-34 are pending in the present application. In the Office Action mailed September 20, 2005, the Examiner rejected claims 1-34 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Worley (USP 6,651,190) in view of Wetzer (USP 6,738,748).

In the Amendment/Response to Office Action Mailed May 17, 2005, Applicant submitted an antedating declaration together with a supporting exhibit disqualifying Wetzer as prior art against claims 1-34. Applicant filed the Amendment/Response, the declaration, and the exhibit by facsimile and received a facsimile confirmation from the Office on May 17, 2005, a copy of which is enclosed herewith. Nevertheless, to expedite prosecution of this Application, Applicant has enclosed herewith a courtesy copy of the Declaration and Exhibit previously filed on May 17, 2005. Accordingly, it is believed that Wetzer is disqualified as prior art against claims 1-34.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully believes that the present application is in condition for allowance, and requests timely issuance of a Notice of Allowance for claims 1-34.

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's consideration of these Remarks and cordially invites the Examiner to call the undersigned, should the Examiner consider any matters unresolved.

Respectfully submitted,



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Dated: November 21, 2005
Attorney Docket No.: GEMS8081.070

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